

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons:

1. Amendments to Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 2 and 3, which originally depended from claim 1.

It is respectfully noted that the phrase “and for controlling” in line 11 of original claim 2 has not been included in amended claim 1. This sentence fragment appears to have been included in the original claim by mistake (the original specification does not use the phrase), and its omission does not affect the scope or indicated allowability of the claims.

2. Rejections of Claims 1 and 2 Under 35 USC §§102(b) and 103(a)

These rejections have been rendered moot by the incorporation, into claim 1, of the subject matter of original claims 2 and 3.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Urcia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Serial Number 10/627,612

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